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Applicant: Kuroita et al.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.